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Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

Report of the Fifth Committee

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I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendation made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 161 appears in the report of the Committee contained in document A/62/601.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 46th and 51st meetings, on 3 and 13 June 2008. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/62/SR.46 and 51).

3. For its further consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 (A/62/791 and Corr.1 and 2);

(b) Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/62/781/Add.14).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.51

4. At its 51st meeting, on 13 June, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur" (A/C.5/62/L.51), submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Mexico.

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5. Before the consideration of the draft resolution, the Secretary of the Committee orally corrected the text as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 1, after the date "30 June 2006", the word "and" was added and the phrase "and 62/____ of _____" was deleted;

(b) In operative paragraph 10, after "60/266", the word "and" was added and the phrase "and 62/____" was deleted;

(c) Operative paragraph 18, which had read:

> "18. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of _____ dollars for the period from 1 August 2008 to 31 December 2008 at a monthly rate of _____ dollars, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243 and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2008, as set out in its resolution 61/237, subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Operation;"

was replaced by the following text:

> "18. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of _____ dollars, comprising the amount of _____ dollars for the maintenance of the Operation for the period from 1 August to 31 December 2008 at a monthly rate of _____ dollars, and the amount of _____ dollars for the support account and the United Nations Logistics Base for the period from 1 August 2008 to 30 June 2009 at the monthly rate of _____ dollars, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243 and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2008 and 2009, as set out in its resolution 61/237, subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Operation;"

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/62/L.51, as orally corrected, without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1769 (2007) of 31 July 2007, by which the Council established the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur for an initial period of twelve months as from 31 July 2007,

Recalling also its resolution 62/232 of 22 December 2007 on the financing of the Operation,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in its resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Operation with the financial resources necessary to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolution of the Security Council,

Noting the hybrid nature of the Operation, and in that regard stressing the importance of ensuring full coordination of efforts between the African Union and the United Nations at the strategic level, unity of command at the operational level and clear delegation of authority and accountability lines,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Head of Mission with the task of formulating future budget proposals in full accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005, 60/266 of 30 June 2006 and 61/276 of 29 June 2007 as well as other relevant resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur as at 30 May 2008, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 345.1 million United States dollars, representing some 27 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only sixty-four Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Operation in full;

[1] A/62/791 and Corr.1 and 2.

[2] A/62/781/Add.14.

4. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Operation;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of its resolutions 59/296, 60/266 and 61/276;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Operation is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his future budget submission details of the mechanisms that exist at Headquarters and in the field for ensuring coordination and collaboration among all United Nations actors active in the relevant mission area;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that future budgets for the Operation contain sufficient information, explanation and justification of the proposed resource requirements relating to its operational costs in order to allow Member States to take well-informed decisions;

14. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Operation against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Operation;

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009

15. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur the amount of 1,569,255,200 dollars for the period from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, inclusive of 1,499,710,000 dollars for the maintenance of the Operation, 60,624,500 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 8,920,700 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base;

Financing of the appropriation

16. *Also decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 147,437,934 dollars for the period from 1 July to 31 July 2008, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243 of 22 December 2006, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2008, as set out in its resolution 61/237 of 22 December 2006;

17. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 16 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 2,242,000 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 1,697,825 dollars approved for the Operation, the prorated share of 485,408 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 58,767 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

18. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 771,962,226 dollars comprising the amount of 708,212,500 dollars for the maintenance of the Operation for the period from 1 August to 31 December 2008 at a monthly rate of 141,642,500 dollars and the amount of 63,749,766 dollars for the support account and the United Nations Logistics Base for the period from 1 August 2008 to 30 June 2009 at the monthly rate of 5,795,433 dollars in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243 and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2008 and 2009, as set out in its resolution 61/237, subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Operation;

19. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 18 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 14,475,050 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 8,489,125 dollars approved for the Operation, the prorated share of 5,339,492 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 646,433 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

20. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

21. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel participating in the Operation under the auspices of the United Nations, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003;

22. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Operation in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the item entitled "Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur".